

National Transportation Safety Board

§ 821.54

§ 821.52 General.

(a) *Applicability.* This subpart shall apply to any order issued by the Administrator under 49 U.S.C. 44709: as an emergency order; as an order not designated as an emergency order, but later amended to be an emergency order; and any order designated as immediately effective or effective immediately.

(b) *Effective date of emergency.* The procedure set forth herein shall apply as of the date when written advice of the emergency character of the Administrator's order is first received and docketed by the Office of Administrative Law Judges or the Board.

(c) *Computation of time.* Time shall be computed in accordance with the provisions of § 821.10.

§ 821.53 Appeal.

(a) *Time within which to appeal.* The certificate holder may appeal within 10 days after the service of the Administrator's emergency or other immediately effective order. The certificate holder shall file an original and 3 copies of the appeal with the Office of Administrative Law Judges, and shall serve a copy of the appeal on the Administrator.

(b) *Form and content of appeal.* The appeal may be in letter form. It shall identify the Administrator's order and the certificate affected, shall recite the Administrator's action and indicate that an emergency or other immediately effective order is being appealed, and shall identify the issues of fact or law on which the appeal is based, and the relief sought. A copy of the order shall be attached to the appeal.

§ 821.54 Review of Administrator's determination of emergency.

(a) *Time within which to file petition.* The certificate holder may, within 2 days after receipt of the Administrator's emergency or other immediately effective order, petition the Board for review of the Administrator's determination that an emergency, requiring the issuance of an immediately effective order, exists. This 2 day deadline is statutory and the Board has no authority to extend it. If the certificate holder has not previously filed an appeal

from the emergency or other immediately effective order, the petition shall also be considered a simultaneously filed appeal from the order under § 821.53.

(b) *Form, content, and service of petition.* The petition may be in letter form. It shall identify the order from which review of the Administrator's exercise of emergency authority is sought, and a copy of the order shall be attached to the petition. The petition shall enumerate the specific grounds on which the certificate holder challenges the Administrator's determination that an emergency exists. In the event that the petition fails to set forth the specific grounds for the certificate holder's challenge to the Administrator's emergency determination, the petition shall be dismissed. The petition shall be served on both the Board and the Administrator via overnight delivery or facsimile.

(c) *Reply to petition.* Within 2 days after service of the petition, the Administrator may file a reply to the petition in support of his or her determination as to the existence of an emergency requiring the order to be effective immediately. Such reply shall be served on both the Board and the certificate holder via overnight delivery or facsimile. No written submissions other than the petition and reply shall be filed, except in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) *Hearing.* No hearing shall be held on a petition for review of an emergency determination. However, a law judge may, on his or her own initiative, solicit from the parties additional information to supplement that provided in the petition and reply.

(e) *Disposition.* Within 5 days after receipt of the petition, the chief judge (or, if the case has been assigned, the law judge to whom the case is assigned) shall dispose of the petition by written order, finding whether the Administrator abused his or her discretion in determining that there exists an emergency requiring the order to be immediately effective, based on the acts and omissions alleged in the Administrator's order, assuming the truth of such factual allegations.

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(f) *Effect of law judge's ruling.* If the law judge grants the petition, the effectiveness of the Administrator's order will be stayed until final disposition of the respondent's appeal by the law judge or the Board. In such cases, the remaining provisions of this subpart (§§ 821.55–821.57) shall continue to apply, and their applicability may not be waived by the respondent without the consent of the Administrator. If the petition is denied, the Administrator's order shall remain in effect, and the remaining provisions of this subpart shall continue to apply, unless respondent waives their applicability. The law judge's ruling on the petition shall be final, and is not appealable to the Board.

§ 821.55 Complaint, answer to complaint, motions, and discovery.

(a) *Complaint.* Within 3 days after receipt of the appeal, or within 3 days after service of a law judge's order disposing of a petition for review of the Administrator's emergency determination, whichever is later, the Administrator shall file with the Board via overnight delivery or facsimile, an original and 3 copies of the emergency or other immediately effective order as the complaint, and serve a copy on the respondent by the same means.

(b) *Answer to the complaint.* Within 5 days after service of the complaint upon respondent, he or she shall file an answer thereto, and serve a copy of the answer on the Administrator. Failure to deny any allegation or allegations of the complaint may be deemed an admission of the allegation or allegations not answered.

(c) *Motion to dismiss and motion for more definite statement.* No motion to dismiss or for a more definite statement shall be made, but the substance thereof may be stated in the respondent's answer. The law judge may permit or require a more definite statement or other amendment to any pleading at the hearing, upon good cause shown and upon just and reasonable terms.

(d) *Discovery.* Discovery is authorized in emergency or other immediately effective proceedings, and, given the short time available, parties are directed to cooperate to ensure timely

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completion prior to the hearing. Discovery requests shall be served as soon as possible after initiation of the proceeding. Motions to compel production shall be expeditiously filed, and will be promptly decided. Time limits for compliance with discovery requests shall accommodate and not conflict with the schedule set forth in this subpart. The provisions at § 821.19 shall apply, modified as necessary to reflect applicable deadlines.

§ 821.56 Hearing and initial decision.

(a) *Notice of hearing.* Within 5 days of the receipt of respondent's appeal, or immediately upon the issuance of a law judge's order disposing of a petition for review of the Administrator's emergency determination (if later), the parties will be notified of the date, time and place of the hearing. The hearing shall be set for a date no later than 30 days after the filing of the appeal. To the extent not inconsistent with this section, the provisions of § 821.37(a) also apply.

(b) *Initial decision.* The initial decision shall be made orally on the record at the termination of the hearing and after opportunity for oral argument. The provisions of § 821.42(b) and (d) shall be applicable (covering content, furnishing a copy of the initial decision excerpted from the record, and issuance date).

(c) *Conduct of hearing.* The provisions of §§ 821.38, 821.39, and 821.40, covering evidence, argument and submissions, and record, shall be applicable.

(d) *Effect of law judge's initial decision.* If no appeal to the Board by either party, by motion or otherwise, is filed within the time allowed, the law judge's initial decision shall become final but shall not be deemed to be a precedent binding on the Board.

§ 821.57 Procedure on appeal.

(a) *Time within which to file a notice of appeal and content.* Within 2 days after the initial decision has been orally rendered, either party to the proceeding may appeal therefrom by filing with the Board and serving upon the other parties a notice of appeal. The time limitations for the filing of documents are not extended by the unavailability of the hearing transcript.